



## ARPA Broadband Access Grant Webinars

The Wisconsin Broadband Office will host two additional webinars for interested persons and potential ARPA Broadband Access Grant program applicants.

### **How to Map Your Broadband Grant Project**

Tuesday, June 29th 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. CST

[Register](#)

### **ARPA Broadband Access Grant Information and Overview #2** (repeat from 6/8)

Wednesday, June 30th 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. CST

[Register](#)

Registration is available and space is limited. For those who cannot attend, a recording of the webinar and webinar slides will be made available on the State Broadband Office webpage.

How to Map

Grant Info

## New Mapping Resources

The Wisconsin Broadband Office has recently published a searchable map of the phase 1 auction winners of the FCC's [Rural Digital Opportunity Fund \(RDOF\)](#). The map includes the twelve winners that have submitted a long-form application to the FCC for funding authorization. In Wisconsin, 240,546 locations were awarded \$373 million in funds. Auction winners have 6 to 8 years to complete deployment of service.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) released a new publicly available [digital map](#) that displays key indicators of broadband needs across the country. This interactive, public map that allows users to explore different datasets about where people do not have quality Internet access. It contains data aggregated at the county, census tract, and census block level from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), M-Lab, Ookla and Microsoft. Speed-test data provided by M-Lab and Ookla help to illustrate the reality that communities experience when going online, with many parts of the country reporting speeds that fall below the FCC's current benchmark for fixed broadband service of 25 Mbps download, 3 Mbps upload.

RDOF

Broadband Needs

## Federal Grants and Funding

### **Consolidated Appropriation Act, 2021**

#### *Tribal Broadband Connectivity Grants*

National Telecommunication and Information Administration, \$1 billion for tribal

governments and organizations to expand broadband adoption and deployment on tribal lands, as well as to support distance learning, remote work, and telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This grant is open for applications, grants are due September 1st  
[Application and Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

NTIA [Tribal Broadband Connectivity](#) Webinar Schedule  
July 21 & 22 at 1:30 p.m. CT  
[Registration](#)

### [Broadband Infrastructure Deployment Grants](#)

National Telecommunication and Information Administration, \$300 million for state-and-provider partnerships to support broadband infrastructure deployment to areas lacking broadband, especially rural areas.

This grant is open for applications, grants are due August 17, 2021  
[Application and Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

NTIA [Broadband Infrastructure Deployment](#) Webinar Schedule  
July 14 & 15 at 1:30 p.m. CT  
[Registration](#)

### [Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program](#)

National Telecommunication and Information Administration. \$285 million for Historically Black College and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority Serving Institutions to help students and communities get connected to the internet through affordable broadband service.

NTIA [Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program](#) Webinar Schedule  
July 28 & 29 1:30 p.m. CT  
[Registration](#)

## **American Rescue Plan Act**

[Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund](#), Department of the Treasury, \$10 billion for capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency. [Statement of purpose and process.](#)

[Emergency Connectivity Fund](#). Federal Communication Commission, \$7.2 billion for E-Rate support to reimburse schools and libraries for provision of eligible equipment and advanced telecommunications and information services during the pandemic, including for locations other than schools and libraries. The initial ECF Program application filing window will open on June 29 and close on August 13. Eligible schools and libraries, can submit requests for funding to purchase eligible equipment and services between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

[Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds](#), \$219.8 billion for states, \$45.6 billion for rural community development block grants, \$19.5 for rural areas and \$65.2 billion for counties, allowable use including for investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure. [Interim final guidance](#) and [fact sheet](#).

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## **Task Force on Broadband Access Report**

On Wednesday, June 30th the Governor's Task Force on Broadband Access will release their inaugural report to the Governor and the Wisconsin State Legislature. The Wisconsin Broadband Office will send a special alert e-newsletter with a link to the report. The report will include the current state of broadband in Wisconsin, as well as Task Force recommendations for policies and initiatives to overcome challenges to statewide access, affordability and adoption. Staffing support for the Task Force is provided by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) State Broadband Office.



out regular communication to internet service providers, grant applicants and broadband stakeholders. We aim to be relevant and share timely information from our office.

Please reach out if anyone from the Wisconsin Broadband Office can be of assistance. [Email Us](#)